
4B

Action

Professional Practices Committee

Committee of Credentials Vacancies for FY 2017-18

Executive Summary: The Commission will review the terms of the current members of the Committee of Credentials and determine whether to reappoint or declare vacancies for one public member, one school administrator member, and one secondary member.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Commission determine whether to reappoint or declare vacancies for three positions on the Committee of Credentials.

Presenter: Vanessa Whitnell, Director, Division of Professional Practices

Strategic Plan Goal:

I. Educator Quality

- d) Effectively, efficiently, and fairly monitor the fitness of all applicants and credential holders to work with California students.

Committee of Credentials Vacancies for FY 2017-18

Introduction

The policy of the Professional Practices Committee and the Commission relative to selection of the members of the Committee of Credentials (Committee) are set forth in the Commission's Policy Manual. This item summarizes the policy and presents information concerning the vacancy, application and selection process.

Background

The Committee is comprised of seven members appointed by the Commission and consists of one elementary teacher, one secondary teacher, one school board member, one school administrator employee, and three public representatives.

The Committee meets three days each month at the offices of the Division of Professional Practices in Sacramento. Members review allegations of educator misconduct each month.

The Commission's Professional Practices Committee is responsible for informing "the Commission when vacancies occur or may be expected to occur on the Committee of Credentials." (CTC Policy Manual §500) The terms of public representative, Ellen Gervase; school administrator Helio Brasil; and secondary teacher, Sheila Ryskamp, expire on June 30, 2017.

The Commission's Policy Manual states that: "Prior to publicly announcing a vacancy, the Committee shall inquire, in writing, as to the availability of incumbents to serve an additional term." (CTC Policy Manual §500(a)) Pursuant to this provision, an inquiry regarding the availability of the eligible incumbents Ellen Gervase, Helio Brasil, and Sheila Ryskamp was sent on October 12, 2016. All incumbents have expressed a willingness to serve an additional term. Ms. Gervase has served one two-year term; Mr. Brasil has served three two-year terms; and Ms. Ryskamp has served three two-year terms.

The Policy Manual also provides that "at least one new member shall be appointed each year, but in the interest of continuity and stability, not more than three members should be replaced in one year," and that "terms of appointment shall commence on July 1 and shall expire on June 30, except that an appointment to fill an unexpired term may be made effective upon the first day that a position becomes vacant." (CTC Policy Manual §503) In addition, the Policy Manual provides that "The term for each initial appointment to the Committee of Credentials shall be two years. No member shall serve more than four successive two-year terms." (CTC Policy Manual §512a)

Committee of Credentials Members

The current composition of the Committee and the terms are as follows:

Name	Date First Appointed	Current Term Expires
TILLIE SOLIZ Public Representative	07-01-10	06-30-18
CHERYL HIGHTOWER Public Representative	10-21-16	06-30-18
ELLEN GERVASE Public Representative	07-01-15	06-30-17
MARIO MOYA Elementary Teacher	10-14-14	06-30-18
JANE SMITH School Board Member	01-21-14	06-30-18
HELIO BRASIL, Chair Administrative Employee	07-01-11	06-30-17
SHEILA RYSKAMP Secondary Teacher	07-01-11	06-30-17

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission determine which positions (public member, school administrator member, secondary member), if any, to declare vacant upon completion of the term of service. If the Commission declares vacancies, staff will begin the process of advertising for candidates for any vacant position(s) and schedule interviews for an Ad Hoc Interview Committee in April 2017.